

Report of the Convener

Child and Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel – 22 May 2022

Panel Review of the Year 2022-23

Purpose:	As the municipal year ends, it is good practice to reflect on the Panel's work, experience, and effectiveness over the past year.
Content:	Summary of the Year's work 2022-23.
Councillors are being asked to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflect on the past year's work• Share ideas to improve the effectiveness of Child and Family Services Scrutiny.
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1.0 Background

1.1 As this is the first meeting of this municipal year, the Panel is invited to reflect on the past year's scrutiny work, experience and effectiveness. Any ideas that will improve the effectiveness of the scrutiny of Child and Family Services, and scrutiny generally, are welcome.

1.2 Some of the questions the Panel may want to consider:

- What went well?
- What, if anything, could be done better?
- Has the Panel's work focused on the right things?
- What have we learnt that will help us to improve and develop future scrutiny?

1.3 To aid Panel Members, a summary of the year's work 2022-23 has been included at 3.0.

2.0 Overview

2.1 The purpose of the Panel is to provide ongoing challenge to performance in Child and Family Social Services to ensure that as the Service is undergoing major change, performance is maintained and that further improvements are made across all areas of the Service.

- 2.2 The lines of enquiry - to regularly review performance in Child and Family Services including asking questions about performance and improvement, focusing on outcomes, provision and leadership. To look at relevant data, commissioning reviews and anything that impacts on Child and Family Services in Swansea.
- 2.3 The Panel has a core membership of 8 councillors. Overall Councillor attendance at the Panel for the year has been 65%.
- 2.4 In accordance with the agreed Scrutiny Work Programme, the Panel has met every six weeks. During the 2022/23 municipal year, there have been 5 Panel meetings and 1 Joint Social Services Panel meeting. Meeting discussions have regularly been reported on by the local press, indicating the Panel has been focussed on issues of public interest.
- 2.5 The Panel has written to relevant Cabinet Members, to convey its views including suggested action, arising from meeting discussions. Letters, and responses where requested, were reported back to the Panel for comments and discussion as necessary.

3.0 Child and Family Services Work Programme 2022-23

Date	Items Discussed
11 October 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of the Child and Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel 2. Overview of Child and Family Services in Swansea (including key priorities and challenges and performance monitoring report) 3. Draft Work Programme 2022-23
1 November 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residential Care Services (including Ty Nant) 2. Corporate Parenting Board Update
5 December 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on Child and Family Improvement Programme and Performance Monitoring 2. Update from Regional Safeguarding Board 3. Safeguarding Quality Unit Annual Report
24 January 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on progress with Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) 2. Update on Child Disability Services
13 February 2023 Joint Social Services Meeting	Draft Budget Proposals for Child and Family Services / Adult Services
7 March 2023	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on Support for Carers (including assessments) 2. Performance Monitoring 3. Briefing on Youth Offending Service

4.0 The Future Work Programme

- 4.1 The future work programme for 2023-24 will be discussed and agreed at the Child and Family Services Scrutiny Performance Panel meeting on 20 June 2023.